



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

Mq

[Signature]

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

09/588,728 06/07/00 L HERMET

J 32143-164104

EXAMINER

MM91/0508

VENABLE, BAETJER, HOWARD & CIVILETTI, LL
P O BOX 34385
WASHINGTON DC 20043-9998

PRASAD, C

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2839

10

DATE MAILED:

05/08/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trad marks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/588,728

Applicant(s)

L HERMET, JEAN-LOUIS

Examiner

Chandrika Prasad

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 April 2001.
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 28-70 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 28-70 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 07 June 2000 is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 12 April 2001 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 7.
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The reply filed on 4-12-01 consists of deletion of all original claims 1-27, addition of new claims 28-70, substitute specification and remarks related to the application.

The claims are not allowable as explained below

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the following must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claims 28-62. No new matter should be entered.

- Suspended receptacle (Claims 28-59)
- Plug mounted on a shock absorber (Claims 60-62)

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show the following as described in the specification. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing.

MPEP § 608.02(d). Correction is required.

- Return means 11 as a spring or piston (Page 16, lines 3-4).
- Concave shape 12 and convex shape 18 (Page 10, lines 13-14).
- Receptacle 30 and cartridge 40 in box 200 (Page 14, lines 8-9).

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because of the following:

Art Unit: 2839

- Reference characters "30" and "40" have both been used to designate receptacle (Page 10, line 17 and Page 11, line 18). Correction is required.
- Reference character "40" has been used to designate both receptacle and cartridge (Page 11, lines 15, 18, Page 10, line 17). Correction is required.

Specification

5. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.
6. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - Description of Figure 4 on Page 11, lines 14-15 does not match the description on Page 5, lines 7-8. Also see Page 11, line 18.
 - Description on Page 15 and 16 are not understood because receptacle 30 and cartridge 40 are not shown in Figure 5.
 - The function of spring lock shift M is not clear. Page 6, line 21 describes this to be a shock and vibration movement of receptacle 30 whereas on Page 14, lines 10-19 it is described as a locking means.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

7. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

8. Claims 28-70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable

Art Unit: 2839

one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The independent Claims 28, 60 and 63 recite a stud 18 contacting a plug 10 without insertion, which is not enabling. Stud 18 has a concave shaped head and plug 10 has spherical or cylindrical protruding tip. The contact between these elements can not be established unless the protruding tip is inserted into the concave portion of the stud.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2839

10. Page 11, lines 21-22 indicate that shape of the plug or stud is not restrictive which is contrary to the main objective of the instant invention, i.e., to reduce tear and wear due to large numbers of repetitive insertions.


11. Surface contact between two conductive contact elements without inserting one contact element into the other is common knowledge and well known in the art of electrical connectors. A few examples are: surface mounted terminals, ball grid array, telephone jack and plug, interposer connectors, etc.

Contact Information

12. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chandrika Prasad whose telephone number is (703) 308-0977.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus, can be reached at (703) 308-3119. The fax number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or processing should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.


BRIAN SIRCUS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800


Chandrika Prasad

April 26, 2001